# New Hampshire Statewide Assessment 2009-2010

### Superintendents and School and District Statewide Assessment Coordinators,

As a new school year approaches, we want to thank you for your help in developing and administering a quality state-wide assessment system. Please extend our sincere appreciation to everyone in your schools and districts involved in statewide assessment for their careful attention to details. Thanks!

This memo includes information about four areas: NH Statewide Assessment System (NECAP, NH-Alt, and ACCESS for ELLs), Accountability and AYP, NAEP, and (new this year) Arts Assessment in NH.

We plan to continue this annual notice. We hope it helps as you think about planning for the next school year. Information included in this message (organized by page number):

- 1. This cover memo
- 2. What's new in New Hampshire Statewide Assessment for 2009-2010
- 3. New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP)
- 4. New Hampshire Alternate Assessment (NH-Alt)
- 5. ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup> English Language Proficiency Testing
- 6. Important Dates 2009-2010 New Hampshire Statewide Assessment System
- 7. AYP Updates 2009-2010
- 8. National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
- 9-10. Arts Assessment in New Hampshire
- 11. SAT/PSAT Schedule for school year 2009-2010 (AP&IB schedules not available yet)
- 12. Known Religious Holidays during NECAP Testing in school year 2009-2010

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# What's New in NH Statewide Assessment for 2009-2010?

- ➤ 2009-2010 Statewide Assessment Participation Guidelines for NECAP, NH-Alt, and ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup> will be published by July 1, 2009 note: USED has ruled exchange students must participate in NECAP (available at: <a href="https://www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment">www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment</a>, within the "Assessment Updates" link)
- ➤ NECAP Writing tests at grade 5 and 8 will be for pilot purposes only no student, school, or district reports will be issued at grades 5 and 8 in writing.
- > NH-Alt is in its second year of a three-year revision period. See the NH-Alt page for information.
- ➤ 2009-2010 Medical Emergency Exemption forms for NECAP, NH-Alt, and ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup> will be updated. Make sure you use the updated forms for school year 2009-2010 Available by September 1, 2009 at: <a href="www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment">www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment</a> within the "Assessment Updates" link.
- ➤ NECAP Accommodations are being updated, and will be available in late August to assist with preparations for the fall NECAP tests in reading, mathematics, and writing. In addition the Accommodations Manual will be updated and improved. Tentatively, the manual will include sections on: Guidance for Using Approved General Assessment Supports that are Not Considered to be Accommodations; Making Accommodations Decisions; Use of Accommodations during Instruction vs. Assessment; 2009 Table of Standard Accommodations approved by NECAP; Accommodations Guidance for Specific Populations; and Related Accommodations Planning and Request Forms.
- The NHSWADL (New Hampshire State-Wide Assessment Distribution List) is being managed by Jiffi Rainie (Jennifer.Rainie@ed.state.nh.us). This distribution list is the Department's primary link to test coordinators in the schools and districts. At least 1 staff member in each area of the state-wide assessment (NECAP, NH-Alt, and ACCESSS for ELLs®) from each school and each district should be included in this distribution list: Name, school, district, and MOST importantly, email address.
- ➤ Volunteers are needed for 2009-2010 **Statewide Assessment Committees** (application available at: <a href="https://www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment">www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment</a> within the "Assessment Updates" link. Information and application deadlines for the other committees will be available during the school year.

NECAP Bias Review – Contact: Deb Fleurant (603)271-3838 Reading NECAP Test Item Review – Contact: Tim Kurtz (603) 271-3846 Mathematics NECAP Test Item Review – Contact: Christine Downing (603) 271-3844 Science NECAP Test Item Review – Contact: Jan McLaughlin (603) 271-3856 NH-Alt (see NH-Alt notice on p. 4 of this memo) – Contact: Gaye Fedorchak (603) 271-7383

### Reporting Updates from 2008-2009 school year:

- **ELL Accountability Reporting** for school year 2008-2009 will be released by July, 2009
- ➤ NECAP Science and NH-Alt Reporting will happen September 22, 2009.

### Websites for NH Statewide Curriculum, Assessment, and Accountability

www.ed.state.nh.us/curriculum www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment www.ed.state.nh.us/accountability

# **New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP)**

In October, NECAP will be used to assess grade 3-8 and 11 students in reading and mathematics, and grade 5, 8, and 11 students in writing. In May, NECAP will be used to assess grade 4, 8, and 11 students in science.

NECAD	What content areas are assessed?				
NECAP	October 1-22, 2009 (pick up October 23)			May 10-27, 2010 (pick up May 28)	
Grade Level	Reading	Math	Writing	Science	
3	Yes	Yes	-	-	
4	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	
5	Yes	Yes	Yes	=	
6	Yes	Yes	-		
7	Yes	Yes	-	-	
8	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
11	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

We will be running a series of workshops connected to both the fall and spring assessments. These include test administration workshops (prior to the assessment) and reporting/test interpretation workshops (after the assessment). The Test Administration workshops for the fall are listed below. The registration site will be open in early August (iregister.measuredprogress.org). Other workshops will be posted later in the year.

Fall 2009 NECAP Test Administration Workshops

Date	Time	Location	Seating
Wednesday, September 9	8:30-12:00	Concord – Grappone Center	150
Thursday, September 10	8:30-12:00	Bedford – SERESC	150
September - tbd	tbd	North Country	tbd

We hope to be able to issue assessment reports connected to the fall NECAP in the third week of January (tentatively January 25). Your help with packing up fall NECAP material correctly and returning promptly will go a long way toward meeting this goal. This will include results for reading, mathematics at grades 3-8 and 11, and for writing at grade 11.

Where do I find more information about NECAP? <a href="http://www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment">http://www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment</a> (then select: NECAP), or contact: Tim Kurtz, 271-3846, <a href="mailto:TKurtz@ed.state.nh.us">TKurtz@ed.state.nh.us</a>

# **NH Alternate Assessment (NH-Alt)**

In September of the 2009-2010 school year, teams will be starting the year-long process of compiling NH Alternate portfolio assessments for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. These portfolios will be completed in mid-April 2010 and submitted for scoring in May 2010.

What's	New f	or 2009	-2010?
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Portfolio administration procedures will change very little for the 2009-2010 school year. The only two procedural differences will be:

Alternately Assessed Students	What content areas are assessed in 2009-2010?			
in Grade:	Reading	Math	Writing	Science
2	Yes	Yes	-	-
3	Yes	Yes	-	-
4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Yes	Yes	-	-
6	Yes	Yes		
7	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
8	-	-	-	Yes
10	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
11	-	-	-	Yes

- As usual, two content standards will be assessed in each content area, but this year, <u>both</u> of the content standards will be *designated* and required by the NHDOE. There will be no 'choice' standards this year.
- The Educator's Manual will no longer provide 'targeted skill examples'. Teams will go directly to the GLEs to find standards that match the required NH-Alt Links specified by the department. Fall training will cover this.
- Teacher Support Model for NH-Alt is changing this year:
  - September 9-25,2009, NHDOE will offer the usual NH-Alt Educator's Workshop sessions across the state. <u>In addition</u> we will offer trainings on high priority topics identified during last year's workshops. Online registration opens August 10<sup>th</sup> for participation in the September workshops. To register, go online to: http://iregister.measuredprogress.org. Specific dates, topics, and times will be posted on the NH Alternate Assessment web page, and published in the Department's monthly Key Messages. Topics will include: Scoring & Graphing; Working with the GLEs; Fitting it All In; Augmented Communication (tentative); and preview of the new NH-Alt (tentative). This year educators may want to attend more than one day or more than one special topic workshop. Educators with alternate assessment training and experience within the last school year (2008-09) may want to attend only the topic sessions.
  - In 2009-2010, for the first time, there will be no large scale trainings during the middle of the school year. Instead, we will provide a series of **regional monthly hands-on workshop sessions** to consult on issues that come up during the routine implementation of instruction and assessment with students participating in NH-Alt Assessment. Attendance space at these small group consultation/hands-on sessions will be restricted to <u>teams</u> from districts or schools composed of at least one general educator *and* one special educator.
- Intensive development work on the design of new NH-Alt Assessment will continue in the background during this school year. NHDOE will be seeking a number of volunteer school teams willing to conduct pilot trials with the new content achievement standards. Watch for announcements and recruitments throughout the year.
- **❖** Important Dates to Remember in 2009-2010
  - **Decision to Participate in NH-Alt:** For students enrolled at the start of the school year, Alternate Assessment participation decisions should be made by the IEP team by **September 30, 2009**. Participation guidelines will be available July 1 at: <a href="www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment">www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment</a> with "Assessment Updates".

• Portfolio Data Collection Periods for 2009-2010: Period 1: September 14 – November 13

Period 2: November 16 – January 29 Period 3: February 1 – April 16

 Registration Window for ALL District Students Participating in NH Alternate Assessment (online, by the sending/responsible district, using the i4see data system): February 8 - March 5, 2010. Please note: Portfolios will not be accepted or scored for students who are not officially registered for participation in this assessment by their sending district.

- Last day to enter evidence in portfolios: April 16, 2010.
- UPS pick up of all completed portfolios (at schools): May 7, 2010.

Gaye Fedorchak, 271-7383, gfedorchak@ed.state.nh.us

# ACCESS for ELLs® English Language Proficiency Test

Every student in NH is given a Home Language Survey at the time of first enrollment in a school or district. The English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) teacher in the school or district must review each survey to determine which students need to be screened for Limited English proficiency (LEP). If the ESOL teacher determines that a student is an ELL (English Language Learner), that student is placed in services and must take an English Language Proficiency test each and every year until the student meets the requirements for proficiency. The test that NH has chosen to use for English Language Proficiency is the ACCESS for ELLs® which is currently given in January – February of each year. All ELLs (PreK–12) must take all four domains (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) of this federally-mandated test whether they are in a Title III program or not.

- The NH Department of Education strongly recommends using the W-APT as the screener for English Language Proficiency. This screener is free and may be downloaded from <a href="www.wida.us">www.wida.us</a>. The W-APT is designed to align with the ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup> English Language Proficiency Test and makes ordering the ACCESS test easier for teachers.
- The ACCESS for ELLs® English Language Proficiency Test may only be given by certified test administrators. ESOL teachers, general education teachers, or professional staff members (i.e., guidance, Speech/Language therapists, etc.) are eligible to certify for ACCESS administration. Test administrators must be familiar with and have worked with ELL students. Any person who is eligible and wishes to become certified to administer the ACCESS test must contact Susan Morgan.
- There will be training/information throughout the school year to inform administrators and educators about ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup>. Topics may include: W-APT administration, test training, and score report information. At least one administrator, ESOL Coordinator or ESOL teacher is encouraged to attend training.
- For news from the Title III office and the Assessment office (ELL info only), information about upcoming conferences, courses, and other state and regional events, join the listserv. School districts can also use the listserv to post an electronic ad for an ESOL teacher. To join, please contact the listserv facilitator, Dr. Suzanne Irujo, at sirujo@bu.edu.
- A calendar of important dates will be on the NH Assessment ACCESS for ELLs® website in the fall and will give specific dates for the following

September - ESOL Assessment training calendar
Mid-November to early December - Window for ordering ACCESS for ELLs® tests
First week of January 2010 - SAUs receive ACCESS for ELLs® tests
Mid-January through February - Administration window for ACCESS for ELLs®
Mid-February - Deadline for ordering additional ACCESS for ELLs® material
Early March - Deadline for SAUs to return ACCESS for ELLs® Test Materials to MetriTech

Mid-May - Release of ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup> results, if all districts return their test materials by early March

- Please be sure to share all information with the ESOL Coordinator within each District or individual school.
- All ELL students in Pre-K through Grade 12 must take the ACCESS for ELLs® English Language Proficiency Test each and every year until they have met the requirement for proficiency and it is determined that they are not in need of ESOL services.

Where do I find more information about English Language Proficiency Screening and Testing?

Contact: Susan Morgan, 271-3719 or <a href="mailto:smorgan@ed.state.nh.us">smorgan@ed.state.nh.us</a>. Website: <a href="www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment">www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment</a>, then select Access for ELLs<sup>®</sup> under Susan Morgan'a name.

# Important Dates for 2009-2010 - NH Statewide Assessment

- August 13: Last day to submit initial NECAP Label Request to Department for fall testing (through i4see). Districts should submit label requests for all public school students, and all Out-of-District placed students who are not placed in a NH Public School.
- August 19: Last day to accept orders for Braille and Large Print for Fall NECAP. Order Fall NECAP Large Print Test Forms and/or Braille test forms by calling Measured Progress at 877-632-7774. Please provide student name, SASID and grade as of September 2009.
- **September**: ESOL Assessment Training calendar begins (details to follow)
- **September 9, 10,&??:** Fall 2007 NECAP Test Administration Workshops for New Test Administrators
- **September 9-25:** NH-Alt Assessment Portfolio Development Workshops (registration opens August 10)
- **Week of September 14:** Fall NECAP Tests Shipped
- September 22: NECAP Science and NH-Alt (all content areas) Reporting
- ➤ Week of September 21: NECAP Science Report Interpretation Workshops (TBA)
- Week of September 21: NECAP Science student level reports to districts
- Late September: Return 2008-2009 NH-Alt Portfolios to schools
- Cotober 1: Start NH-Alt Portfolio development for students in grades 2-8, 10-11
- > October 1-22: Administration Window Fall 2009 NECAP Test Administration (Pick up on October 23)
- > October 2 by noon: Second round request for Fall NECAP labels (through i4see)
- November: Order ACCESS for ELLs test
- **Early January:** Receive shipment of ACCESS for ELLs test
- Mid January to February: Administer ACCESS for ELLs test
- **January 25:** (tentative) Release of NECAP Results for grades 3-8, 11 and NH-Alt Results for grades 2-7 and 10
- ➤ January 25-March 5: NAEP Testing in NH Schools
- **February:** NECAP and NH-Alt Test Results Interpretation Workshops (Reading, Writing, Mathematics TBA)
- **February 1:** NH-Alt students enrolled in a NH district by February 1 must complete and submit a May portfolio
- **February 1:** LEP student enrolled in NH districts by February 1 must participate in the ACCESS for ELLs<sup>®</sup> test
- February 8-March 5: Districts must register all students who are participating in NH Alternate Assessment during the 09-10 school year
- **Early March**: Return of ACCESS for ELLs test to MetriTech
- Mid March: Braille and Large Print Orders for NECAP Science are due (for students new since October)
- ➤ March 31: Complete Superintendent certification for return of portfolios
- **Early April:** Last day to submit initial NECAP Science Label Request to Department for spring testing (through i4see). Districts should submit label requests for all public school students and all Out of District placed students.
- ➤ April: Spring 2008 NECAP Science Test Administration Workshops
- **April 16:** Last day to enter student data into NH-Alt Portfolios
- April 17-May 6: Conduct Principal and Parent portfolio review and prepare return shipments
- May 7: UPS Pick-up of all completed NH-Alt Portfolios (from attending school)
- ➤ Mid May: Release of ACCESS for ELLs test results to schools
- May 10-27: NECAP Science Assessment test administration window (pick up on May 28) To be scheduled

2010 AYP and Follow-the-Child Growth Reports – Tentatively April, 2010 Title III Accountability Reports for English Language Proficiency – Summer 2010 Combined NECAP and NH-Alt Reports – to be scheduled

# AYP Updates for 2009-2010

The NH Department of Education is considering changes to two elements of AYP: Participation Rate and Full Academic Year. In addition, the Department will be producing documents to help schools and districts track and check student demographic data that will be used to produce AYP reports in 2010. All recommended changes to the NH AYP definition must be approved by the US Education Department.

**Participation Rate:** The AYP task force has recommended adopting an averaging technique when calculating participation rate (applied to all groups in school/district/state reports) as follows:

		n	%	Satisfies	Reported as
1	Current year	≥ 40	<b>≥0</b> .95	Yes	Yes
2	2 most recent years	≥ 40	≥ 0.95	Yes	Yes(2)
3	3 most recent years	≥ 40	≥ 0.95	Yes	Yes(3)
3	3 most recent years	≥ 40	< 0.95	No	No
3	3 most recent years	< 40		No decision	**

**Full Academic Year:** The AYP task force is considering adopting an ADM (average daily membership) calculation for Full Academic Year. ADM is calculated at the student level as a percent of the school year a student is enrolled in the school/district.

$$ADM = \frac{(Number of half dayspresent) + (number of half daysabsent)}{(number of half daysin the schoolyear)}$$

The recommendation to the AYP Task Force for Full Academic Year will be ADM  $\geq$  90.0

**Blue Sheet:** This document identifies the student demographic data sources that will be used to run the winter 2010 NECAP assessment reports and the spring 2010 AYP Reports. The document is being updated and will be posted this summer.

**Support for understanding state-wide participation requirements in High Schools.** The Department plans to conducting a workshop for high schools in early September to help high schools identify who is required to participate in NECAP or NH-Alt assessments.

# The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

The NAEP assessment cycle begins each spring prior to the academic year in which the assessment is administered. Preliminary notification and scheduling occurs far in advance of the winter assessment period. Already underway:

- Superintendents of Schools were notified in a letter dated May 19, 2009 of the schools in their district(s) that were selected for the 2010 National-Level NAEP (academic year, 2009-2010).
- In early June, 2009 Principals of the selected schools will be notified and provided a preassigned assessment date during the NAEP assessment window, **January 25, 2010 through March 5, 2010**. The dates are flexible and can be changed to avoid conflicts.

For the 2010 NAEP a national sample of students in grades 4, 8, and 12 will be required. This is a much smaller sample than that required in the 2009 NAEP which entailed many more schools and students to provide state-level results. Only national results will be available from the 2010 NAEP cycle. The subjects being assessed for 2010 are U.S. History, Civics, and Geography with pilot studies being conducted in Writing and Mathematics. The Writing pilot at grade 4 will be a pencil and paper assessment whereas the Writing pilot at grades 8 and 12 will be computer-based. Each student in the sample takes a 90 minute assessment in only one of the subject areas or pilot studies.

Key dates to note for the 2010 NAEP assessment cycle:

- Late August, 2009 Second notification letters to Principals of selected schools with detailed information about designating a School Coordinator (SC), registering for MySchool, and submitting a list of students
- **September and October, 2009** Completion of the School Data Collection Form on the MySchool website.
- **By November 1, 2009** Submit via the MySchool website an e-file list of students for the targeted grade being assessed
- In December, 2009 A Pre-Assessment Visit is scheduled for each school by the NAEP assessment staff and Pre-Assessment (PA) packets are sent out. Packets contain short questionnaires to be completed by school staff prior to January
- **In January**, **2010** Pre-Assessment Visits are conducted and the questionnaires from the PA packet are collected
- **January 25 to March 5, 2010** Assessments are conducted by NAEP staff. Each school has a mutually agreed upon date with 90 minutes of testing for the selected student sample.

Where do I find more information about NAEP?? <a href="http://www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment">http://www.ed.state.nh.us/assessment</a> (then select the link: NAEP that appears in the blue "snowflake" or under David Gebhardt's name), or contact: David Gebhardt, 271-2298, <a href="mailto:dgebhardt@ed.state.nh.us">dgebhardt@ed.state.nh.us</a>

# **Arts Assessment in New Hampshire**

#### **Assessment:**

The *process* of collecting and analyzing data for the purpose of evaluation. The assessment of student learning involves describing, collecting, recording, scoring, and interpreting information about performance. A complete assessment of student learning should include measures with a variety of formats as developmentally appropriate. Assessments and the tests they use are usually classified by how the data are used; either formative, benchmark or interim, and summative. (Source: State Collaborative on Assessment and Student Standards, Arts Education Consortium, Council of Chief State School Officers).

Assessment has enormous power to improve student learning in any content area. As we fully immerse ourselves in the data-driven world of education, how do the arts fit into an assessment system reliant on data? What constitutes data in the arts? What value does assessment have in classrooms across our state where music, visual art, theatre and dance are taught?

These are questions that drive the assessment work in the arts at the New Hampshire Department of Education. Unlike the content areas that are part of the NECAP test and the state accountability system, for the arts, assessment is squarely placed at the local level. This is no surprise, but it does beg the question "Who cares and why does it matter anyway since schools aren't held accountable for student performance in the arts?"

Without a doubt, using assessment data to improve teaching and learning really does improve student outcomes. Good teaching embeds formative assessment strategies during instruction. Good teaching uses student work to make decisions about student proficiency attainment. Good teaching uses multiple measures to assess student learning over time. Good teaching is good assessment; that's why we care. In the arts, we do this very well. But many teachers and administrators don't realize that their teaching practices and arts programs are fine examples of formative, interim, and summative assessments or that their room is packed with a variety of student evidence.

#### Consider the chart below:

Setting/Context	Activity/Tool	Assessment Connection
Band/Choral Rehearsal	Meaningful feedback between the director	Formative Assessment-Improves the performance of
	and the students that promotes critical	individuals and the group as a whole.
	analysis of the work as produced in real time.	
Band/Choral	A formal concert setting where musical	Summative Assessment-Videotaping the concert, showing
Performance	compositions that have been rehearsed over	it to students, and having them respond to questions that
	time are presented to an audience.	refer to specific performance criteria provides an
		opportunity for students to reflect upon the performance.
Visual Art Room	Individual feedback by the teacher to each	Formative Assessment-Improves the performance of the
	student while the student engages in the art	individual
	making process.	
Standards-based arts	Use of rubrics aligned to standards-based	Performance-based assessment: It's inherent in the arts.
curriculum/instruction/	outcomes.	
assessment		
Visual Art portfolios	Long-held tradition in the visual arts of	A collection of student work (evidence) that shows growth
	maintaining a collection of work over time.	over time.
SmartMusic software	Advanced technology that allows students to	Multiple measures over time to produce an accurate
	practice at home and with the aid of software	account of student growth in technical skill and musical
	record their performances of selected musical	attainment. Technology includes grade book entries,
	compositions and receive a rating based on	emails to students and parents, best performance gains by
	their ability. Digital audio files are emailed	"gaming" the system for higher & higher scores.
	to teacher for evaluation and grading.	

# **Upcoming Events and Key Resources in Arts Assessment**

In an effort to provide on-going support for assessment literacy in the arts the following events and resources are offered:

# 1. The Nation's Report Card on Student Achievement In Music and Visual Arts Release Date: June 15, 2009

Release of The Nation's Report Card: Arts 2008, presenting the performance of U.S. 8th-grade students in music and visual arts on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The arts assessment was administered to a nationally representative sample of 7,900 8th-grade public and private school students. Student achievement results are presented nationally for 8th graders, including comparisons to results from 1997, the last time NAEP administered the arts assessment. The Report Card also provides information on student and school background factors related to achievement in music and visual arts.

# **2.** The New England Arts Assessment Institute 2009: August 4-7, 2009 at Castleton State College, Castleton, VT.

A collaboration of the New Hampshire and Vermont Departments of Education and supported by the New England Arts Assessment Network and Castleton State College, this high quality professional development training is available to all K-16 music, visual art, theatre, dance and classroom teachers, curriculum coordinators and others. Three graduate credits are available through the Center for Schools at Castleton State College. Brochure and registration materials available at <a href="http://newenglandarts.ning.com/">http://newenglandarts.ning.com/</a>

### 3. New Hampshire Arts Education Survey

This spring the New Hampshire Department of Education and the state Council on the Arts in partnership with Arts Quadrant Research launched a statewide survey project to gather programmatic data on student opportunities to learn in the arts. One set of questions was designed to better understand arts assessment activities at the local level. Over 150 schools participated in this voluntary effort. Arts Quadrant Research will analyze the statewide data and a report will be issued by the end of 2009.

The local schools and districts that completed the survey will find this work beneficial as it is a way to better understand the full complement of artistic opportunities provided to all students K-12 in their school or district and is designed to be an on-going tracking tool to record changes to programs over time.

The New Hampshire Department of Education will offer sessions on "Now that We Have the Arts Data, What Do We Do?" at the fall conferences of the NH Music Educators' and NH Visual Art Educators' as well as a plenary session at the fall Arts Education Partnership Conference presented by the state Arts Council. Details follow:

#### **NHMEA Fall Conference**

October 22, 2009 Manchester Community Music School http://nhmea.org/

### **NHAEA Fall Conference**

October 17, 2009 New Hampshire Institute of Art Manchester, NH http://www.nhaea.org/

#### **Arts Education Partnership Conference**

Maps and Journeys: Perspectives on the Future of Arts Education in New Hampshire October 30-November 1 AMC Highland Center at Crawford Notch Bretton Woods <a href="https://www.nh.gov/nharts"><u>www.nh.gov/nharts</u></a>

#### 4. Arts Assessment Handbook

This is a basic handbook for arts assessment literacy describing state policy regarding arts assessment (ED 306.31) and the basic tenets of assessment. This document along with several other on-line resources is available at: <a href="https://www.ed.state.nh.us/education/arts">www.ed.state.nh.us/education/arts</a>

# SAT/PSAT Test Dates for School Year 2009-2010

20092010 Test Dates	Test
October 10, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests
November 7, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests
December 5, 2009	SAT & Subject Tests
January 23, 2010	SAT & Subject Tests
March 13, 2010	SAT only
May 1, 2010	SAT & Subject Tests
June 5, 2010	SAT & Subject Tests

Source: www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/calenfees.html

### **PSAT/NMSQT Test Dates Fall 2009**

In 2009, high schools may administer the PSAT/NMSQT on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 or Saturday, October 17, 2009.

Source: <a href="http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/reg/dates.html">http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/reg/dates.html</a>

### AP 2010 Exams Schedule (not available yet)

Source: www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/cal/cal2.html

IB Exam Schedule (not available yet)

Source: <a href="http://www.ibo.org/">http://www.ibo.org/</a>

# Known Religious Holidays During NECAP Testing School Year 2009-2010

## OCTOBER 2009 (testing dates: October 1-22, 2009 with pick up on October 23)

3-9	(3-4 Primary Obligation Days) Sukkot * - Jewish
4	St Francis Day - Catholic Christian
10	Shemini Atzeret * - Jewish
11	Simchat Torah * - Jewish
12	Thanksgiving - Interfaith - Canada
17	Diwali (Deepavali) ** - Hindu, Jain
20	Installation of Scriptures as Guru Granth - Sikh
	Birth of the Bab - Baha'i

### MAY 2010 (testing dates: May 10-27, 2010 with pick up on May 28)

13	Ascension of Christ - Christian
19-20	Shavuot * - Jewish
23	Pentecost - All Christians
	Declaration of the Bab - Baha'i
27	Buddha Day - Visakha Puia ** - Buddhist

### For Additional Information on Religious Holidays

Go to: <a href="http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/2009.htm">http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/2009.htm</a></a>
<a href="http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/2010.htm">http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/2010.htm</a>

<sup>\*</sup> Means that Holy days begin at sundown the day before this date.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Regional customs, group preference or moon sightings may cause a variation of this date. Bold titles are primary holy days of a tradition.